-05-0 UC18 Rec'd PCT/PTO 18 OCT Form PTO 1390 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER (REY 17-2000) 1168PCT TRANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES U.S. APPLICATION NO. (If known, see 37 CFR 1.5 DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFICE (DO/EO/US) 09/980981 CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 25 U.S.C. 371 INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE E PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED PCT/US00/10566 19 April 2000 19 April 1999 TITLE OF INVENTION Mechanical Pointer DCT 18 2001 APPLICANT(S) FOR DO/EO/US Schroeder Applicant herewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office US) the following items and other information: This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371. This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371 (f)). The submission must include items (5), (6), (9) and (21) indicated below. The US has been elected by the expiration of 19 months from the priority date (Article 31). 5. XX A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)) is attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau) has been communicated by the International Bureau. is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Receiving Office (RO/US). 6. NA An English language translation of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(2)). is attached hereto. has been previously submitted under 35 U.S. C. 154(d)(4). Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(3)). are attached hereto (required only if not communicated by the International Bureau). have been communicated by the International Bureau. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amendments has NOT expired. have not been made and will not be made. An English language translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(3)). An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(4)). 10. An English language translation of the annexes of the International Preliminary Examination Report under PCT Article 36 (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(5)). Items 11 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included: 11. An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. 12. An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included. 13. A FIRST preliminary amendment. A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment. 14. 15. A substitute specification. 16. A change of power of attorney and/or address letter. 17. A computer-readable form of the sequence listing in accordance with PCT Rule 13ter.2 and 35 U.S.C. 1.821 - 1.825. 18. A second copy of the published international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 19. A second copy of the English language translation of the international application under 35 U.S.C. 154(d)(4). 20. Other items or information:

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X The following fees are submitted:			CALCULATIONS PTO USE ONLY				
BASIC NATIONAL FEE	E (37 CFR 1.492 (a) (1) -	(5)):					
Neither international preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) nor international search fee (27 CFR 1.445(a)(2)) paid to USPTO and International Search Report not prepared by the EPO or JPO							
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International preliminary examination fee (37 CFR 1.482) paid to USPTO but all claims did not satisfy provisions of PCT Article 33 (1)-(4)							
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Surcharge of \$130.00 fo months from the earliest	r furnishing the oath or de claimed priority date (37	claration later than CFR 1.492(e)).	20 30	\$			
CLAIMS	NUMBER FILED	NUMBER EXTRA	RATE	\$			
Total Claims	-20 =		x \$18.00	s		- :	
Independent Claims	- 3 =		× \$80.00	\$			
	T CLAIM(S) (if applicable		+ \$270.00	\$			
Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27. The fees indicated above should be reduced by 1/2.					-		
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SELE-ALIGNING MECHANICAL POINTER

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TECHNICAL FIELD

This invention is designed for use with vehicle mounted line stripers.

BACKGROUND ART

While various types of video and mechanical guidance systems are known for use with vehicle mounted line stripers, all systems known to date suffer somewhat with rear mounted stripers in that while attempting to stripe over an existing line. While cornering, the front of the vehicle must track slightly to the outside of the line in order to keep the paint guns on the existing lines.

DISCLOSURE OF THE INVENTION

A pivoting wheel rides on the road surface and is connected to a swing arm with an adjustable linkage to another swing arm supporting a vertical rod which acts as a line guide.

These and other objects and advantages of the invention will appear more fully from the following description made in conjunction with the accompanying drawings

WO 00/63029 PCT/US00/10566

wherein like reference characters refer to the same or similar parts throughout the several views.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

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Figure 1 is a top plan view of the guidance system of the instant invention.

Figure 2 is a front perspective view showing the guidance system mounted to a vehicle with the guide rod tracking the preexisting line.

Figure 3 is an operator's view from inside the vehicle cab showing the guide rod following the line on a forward looking video system.

BEST MODE FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

The instant invention is generally designated 10 and shows a frame 12 attached to the front of a vehicle 14. A guide wheel 16 rides on the road surface and is rotatably carried by a pivoting wheel holder 18. Wheel holder 18 is connected to a swing arm 20, both of which pivot on frame 12 at pivot point 22. An adjustable linkage member 24 connects first swing arm 20 to second swing arm 26 supporting a vertical guide rod 28 which acts as a line guide. Second swing arm 26 is pivotably mounted to the end of frame 12. As can be seen in Figure 1, first and second swing arms 20 and 26 respectively each have a plurality of adjustment holes which allow the geometry of the linkage to be adjusted to suit a variety of vehicles and guidance systems.

WO 00/63029 PCT/US00/10566

3

As shown in the drawings, the instant invention is designed for use with the forward looking guidance system sold by Graco Inc., assignee of the instant invention for use with the ROAD LAZERTM line striper. In operation, the operator need merely maintain the guide rod 28 with the line on which striping is desired (preexisting or otherwise).

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It is contemplated that various changes and modifications may be made to the guidance system without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as defined by the following claims.

PCT/US00/10566

CLAIMS

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- 1. A guidance system for use with a vehicle-mounted line striper, said guidance system comprising:
 - a frame member for mounting on said vehicle;
- 5 a first guide arm pivotably attached to said frame;
 - a second guide arm pivotably attached to said frame and said first guide arm;
 - a ground-contacting guide wheel rotatably mounted to said first guide arm; and
 - a guide rod extending vertically upwardly from said second guide arm so that the operator of said vehicle may maintain said guide rod on a line to be striped so as to maintain proper placement of said line through curves.







PCT

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(74) Agent: FARROW, Douglas, Graco Inc., 4050 Olson Memorial Highway, Golden Valley, MN 55422 (US).

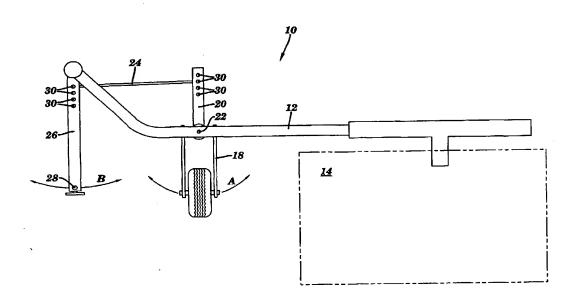
(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published

With international search report.

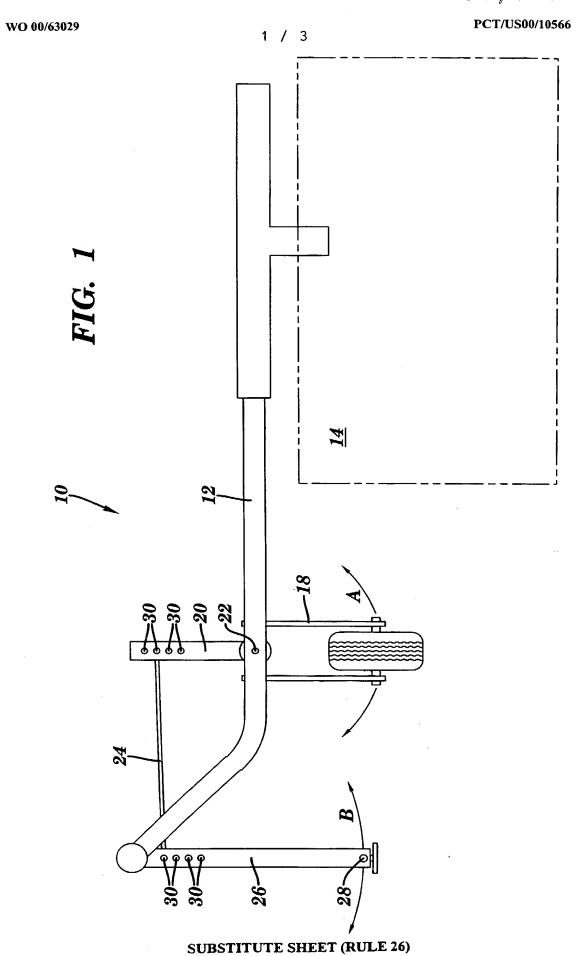
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

(54) Title: SELF-ALIGNING MECHANICAL POINTER



(57) Abstract

A self-aligning mechanical pointer (10), includes a frame (12) attached to the front of a vehicle (14). A guide wheel (16) rides on a road surface and is rotatably carried by a wheel holder (18). The wheel holder (18) is connected to a swing arm (20), which pivots on frame (12) at point (22). An adjustable linkage member (24) connects swing arm (20) to a second swing arm (26). A guide rod (28) provides a sight means for an operator to align the pointer (10) with an intended target.



WO 00/63029

PCT/US00/10566

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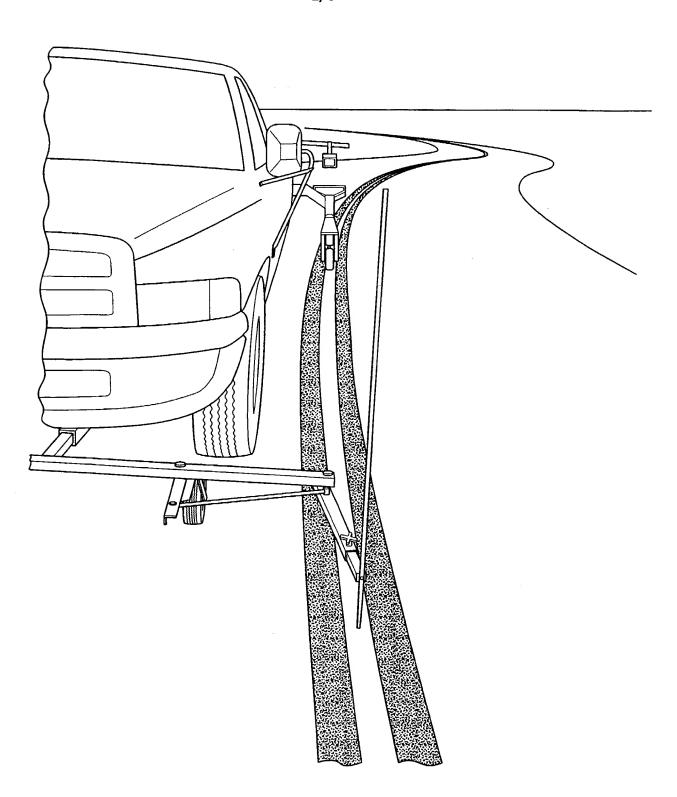
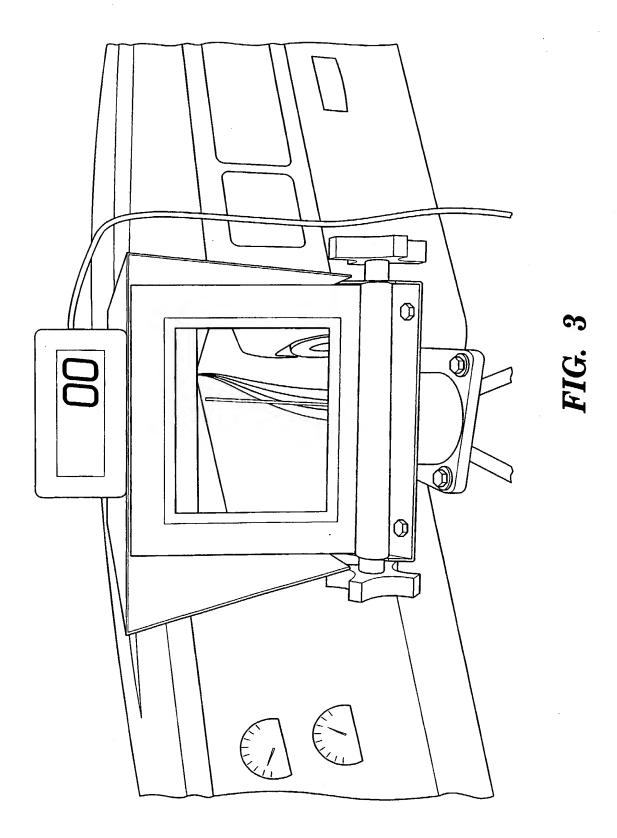


FIG. 2

SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)

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SUBSTITUTE SHEET (RULE 26)



Attorney Docket Number

1168PCT

PTO/SB/of (03-01)

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DECLARATION FOR UTILITY OR DESIGN				First Named Inve	Schroeder	_)			
	PATE	NT APPLIC	ATION	COMPLETE IF KNOWN					
	(37 CFR 1.6	3)	Application Num	ber	1			
		De	eclaration ubmitted after Initial	Filing Date			_		
				Group Art Unit		,			
	with Initial Filing	Filing (surcharge (37 CFR 1.16 (e))		Examiner Name					
\	·9	•	quired)	·			${\it J}$		
	As a below named inven	tor, I hereby d	eclare that:				\neg		
	My residence, mailing address, and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.								
	I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only on name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:								
		<u> </u>		1					
	CELE ALTONEN	·	ALL DOTAMED						
	SELF-ALIGNIN	G MECHANIC	SAL POINTER						
l	,		(Title of the Inv	rention)					
	the specification of whic	h ·				•			
	is attached hereto								
	OR								
	X was filed on (MM/	DD/YYYY) [April 19, 2000 as	United States Applicat	ion Number o	or PCT International			
	Application Number PCT/US00/10566 and was amended on (MM/DD/YYY) (if applicable).								
	I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment specifically referred to above.								
	I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation- in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.								
	I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of an PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed.								
	Prior Foreign Application Number(s)	Country	Foreign Filing Date (MM/DD/YYYY)	Priority Not Claimed	Certified YES	Copy Attached? NO			
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	 Additional Foreign Appl 	ication number	s are listed on a supplemer	ntal priority data sheet P1	O/SB/02B atta	ached hereto:	- 1		

[Page 1 of 2]

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DECLARATION – Utility or Design Patent Application

<u> </u>								
Direct all correspondence to: Customer Number or Bar Code Label Or X Correspondence address below								
Name Douglas B. Farrow, Corporate Intellectual Property Counsel, Graco Inc.								
Address 88 11th Avenue NE								
City Minneapolis State MN ZIP 55413						413		
Country U.S.A. Telephone 61			2-623-6769 Fax 6				12-623-6944	
I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.								
NAME OF SOLE OR FIRST INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor								
Given Name (first and middle [if any]) James C. Family Name or Surname Schroeder								
Inventor's Signature C. Schred Date 10/18/07								
Residence: City Ramsey State Minnesota			Country U.S.A.				Citizenship U.S.A.	
Mailing Address 9000 160th Lane								
City Ramsey State MN			ZIP 55303				Country U.S.A.	
NAME OF SECOND INVENTOR: A petition has been filed for this unsigned inventor								
Given Name (first and middle [if any]) Family Name or Surname								
Inventor's Signature Date								
Residence: City State			Country				Citizenship	
Mailing Address								
City	City State ZIP Country					Country		
Additional inventors are being named on the supplemental Additional Inventor(s) sheet(s) PTO/SB/02A attached hereto.								